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Farm . Home . School



FROM "THE SOWER" TO MODERN TRACTOR DRILL

For centuries "the sower" symbolized one phase of mankind's struggle to produce food. In the year 1799, the prototype of the modern drill was patented in America; in 1851, the principle of the force-feed was introduced. For all practical purposes the era of "the sower" who could scatter seed over ten or eleven acres a day came to an end in the 1870's.

Compared with hand broadcasting methods, the modern drill saves seed, increases yields and when tractor drawn can cover sixty acres per day and more.

HAND IN HAND

The drill is one of a large number of farm implements which have transformed agriculture and freed the farmer from his age old bondage to the soil.

In the manufacture of the thousands of component parts of farm machinery, Imperial cutting oils and industrial lubricants are used extensively. Before shipping from the factory and on the farm, bearings, gears and other parts are protected with greases, oils and rust preventives.

This is one of many of Imperial Oil's contributions to a more efficient and prosperous agricultural industry.



IMPERIAL OIL LIMITED
Farm Division



Can The Farmers Sell Themselves?

In a world where agreement on even the most elementary level is often sought after in vain, it comes as a pleasant surprise to see an agreement actually consummated, and to realize what a spirit of compromise must have entered into the discussions leading up to the four-power beef agreement between Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States.

That agreement has been reached must be a source of great satisfaction to our beef producers, who, in the short space of a few months saw their most valuable market closed to them for an indefinite period, with all the attendant ills which this must of necessity have thrust upon them.

It has been intimated in government circles that this shift of our export market from the United States to the United Kingdom will cost the Canadian taxpayer a not inconsiderable sum of money. We who are closely associated with Canadian agriculture realize that this may be a necessary evil, but — and this is the crucial question — is the Canadian public at large aware of what is at stake? Will they quietly agree to this transfer of funds from the Federal Government to the beef producers? Judging by past experience it would seem that the answer may be in the negative.

"Why," the hard pressed consumer asks, "should the farmer be bolstered with government funds when the agricultural income last year was at an all-time high?" This is the crux of the question to the urban dweller, and it is one which rural Canada must answer. Hysterics will do no good. The consumer wants facts, and facts he must get.

In other words what we are saying is that the farmer has a selling job to do. He may be doing an increasingly better job of farming, but he is doing a very poor job of public relations. The old adage that if you build a better mouse trap the world will beat a path to your door, is as true now as it was when first coined.

Rural Canada does not believe in shouting its troubles from the roof tops, and let us say right now that we commend them for it, but it is becoming increasingly

necessary for Canadian agriculture to be able and willing to present its case before the tribunal of public opinion in an orderly and reasoned manner. To prove that this is becoming yearly more important we need only point to the dwindling population within agriculture.

The urban and rural character is much the same; what is logical to the one is logical to the other. Both agree on the tools to use in arguing a case. What they may disagree on is the rights and wrongs of the situation. High pressure salesmanship may dazzle a few people over the short run, but on the other hand it may make agriculture look ridiculous. Pressure on government may achieve some temporary results; neither of these methods, however, will make lasting converts for agriculture.

Problems should be viewed in the light of the whole picture, not just any small segment. For instance, the consumption and use of milk and milk products has changed considerably during the last ten years. What are we going to do? Blindly oppose all change? Run to the government for aid? Or are we going to use the tools at our disposal and study the problems, then base our actions upon results achieved through deduction and logic?

Our impact upon the urban population will depend in large measure upon how we tackle the problems which confront us. The major task for rural Canada is to understand itself.

Our Cover Picture

Professor W. A. Maw (left foreground) is Chairman of the Poultry Department at Macdonald College. He is also National Chairman of the Poultry Products Institute of Canada, Co-chairman of the Quebec Poultry Industry Committee, and Vice-president of the World Poultry Science Association. He is also an excellent cook, as those who tasted his barbecued chicken on Macdonald Day will testify.

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Thinning Apples With Chemicals

by D. S. Blair and S. H. Nelson

Thinning is only one of the many problems which annually confronts the fruit grower. In this article, two staff members of the Division of Horticulture at Ottawa give us some pointers on how to thin for best results.

WHEN an excessive set of fruit occurs in commercial apple orchards, thinning is necessary to produce a high quality product and to maintain satisfactory tree performance, for the tree is unable to supply sufficient food to size and ripen all the individual fruits. The immediate results of the excessive set is a crop of low quality fruit — fruit mediocre in size and colour, and of varied maturity at the picking season. Moreover, the food requirements of this large growing crop rob the tree of food reserves vitally necessary for the formation of the fruit buds for the next year, and thus the tree reverts to, or is forced into, the undesirable habit of biennial bearing. To obviate these several undesirable results, the operator of a commercial orchard resorts to thinning. By thinning, a high quality fruit is produced and satisfactory tree performance is maintained.

Thinning may be done by hand, by chemicals, or by a combination of both. Extensive investigations conducted by the Division of Horticulture, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, over the past eight years, have shown that this new orchard practice of chemical thinning is practical. Not only is it less costly, but also, since it can be done earlier in the season, better fruit size is attained and the tree has the reserves to assure more uniform annual bearing.

Not all varieties need thinning annually. Certain heavy setting varieties will need thinning, while other varieties only set an excessive crop when pollinating conditions are ideal; that is, warm, still days when the orchard is literally alive with bees. However, since fruit set is further influenced by tree vigour, soil fertility, and conditions during the previous season, a knowledge of the previous bearing habit of the orchard and careful observations of the suitability of the weather for pollination during the blossoming period are most important in determining whether or not chemical thinning sprays should be used.

At the present time the most extensively used materials are the dinitro compounds and the growth regulating substances, naphthaleneacetic acid and the sodium salt of naphthaleneacetic acid. Other chemicals which have been used include Dowax T.T.S. and Dowax 82, and 222; Goodrite p.e.p.s. (polyethylene polysulphide) combined with Fruit Thinner (Zemate-cyclohexylamine) and



Thinning not only gives a more uniform crop, but it also protects the tree against excessive loss of food reserves.

Goodrite p.e.p.s. combined with Goodrite Z.A.C. (zinc dimethyl dithiocarbamate-cyclohexylamine complex).

Application

Blossom-thinning chemicals are applied in spray form, using the power sprayer operating at sufficiently high pressures (400-500 lb.) to give good coverage. Thorough agitation is essential. Investigations have shown that in most cases a single application, if properly timed, will give adequate thinning. Time of application is undoubtedly the most important factor to be considered in using blossom-thinning sprays. With the dinitro materials, which are applied at the full bloom stage (when 75 per cent of the blossoms are out), good judgment on the part of the grower is essential. A lapse of twelve to twenty-four hours may make the difference between success and failure. The dinitro materials are caustic in effect and they destroy not only the pollen which has been liberated, but also the pollen still remaining in situation in the undehisced anthers as soon as contact is effected. However, as soon as any living pollen reaches the stigma or central portion of the flower, it germinates and immediately starts growing towards the ovules in the base. If this growth is at all appreciable, the dinitro sprays are not effective, for these sprays penetrate only slightly. In such cases, growth of the tube from the germinated pollen grain continues to the base, fertilization is effected, and thus the setting of the fruit is accomplished. It must be remembered, however, that the activity of the pollen carriers, the bees, and that the germination of the pollen grain itself are both restricted in cool weather. Therefore, when such conditions prevail, the grower should be careful either to use lower concentrations of the dinitro sprays or to delay the application until one or two days after full bloom.



The spray can be applied with a wide variety of equipment. Machines such as the above can be used in the smaller orchards, or —

Because the dinitro sprays are caustic in nature, floral parts such as petals and the tips of the style, and even the young primary leaves present, are severely injured. The trees take on a very burnt appearance soon after spraying, but recover quickly and the foliage is normal at harvest time. Although the early spur leaves are injured by the spray, the saving in food material by the prevention of a heavy set of fruit more than offsets this initial set-back and explains why no serious after-effects take place.

Unlike the dinitro sprays, the growth regulating substances are not caustic in effect. The application of a growth regulation material at the calyx stage or shortly thereafter causes the abscission of young fruits which would normally adhere. With varieties such as McIntosh, Delicious and Northern Spy, which only set excessively when pollinating conditions are ideal, the naphthaleneacetic acid preparations are best suited, since by calyx time or shortly afterward it will be possible to determine whether fruit set has been excessive. Since the earlier thinning gives greater size at picking time and more uniform annual cropping, the naphthaleneacetic acid sprays should be applied soon after the calyx stage.

With the use of growth regulating substances for thinning, a characteristic injury has been observed, notably on the varieties McIntosh and Duchess. Immediately after spraying, a wilting of the foliage occurs. At a later stage of growth the affected leaves are dwarfed and crinkled. This curling and dwarfing of the spur leaves persists throughout the season, and is more prevalent in some varieties than others. With the susceptible varieties it has been noted that the early calyx or calyx applications are more harmful to the foliage than the sprays applied one or two week later. These same results were observed even when higher concentrations to ensure adequate thinning were used. Should delayed applications be used to reduce the foliage injury, some size and annual bearing

habit may be sacrificed. It is felt that normal healthy foliage more than compensates for these losses.

Care must be taken when spraying with either the dinitro or the naphthaleneacetic acid preparation. There is a tendency on the part of the operator to over-thin the bottom portion of the tree. Good coverage is essential for best results, but the tree need not be soaked. A single spraying, with no overlapping, will give the most even thinning. Even then, the bottom portion of the tree will be thinned more than the top. This of course is the result of the redistribution of the material downwards by run off.

Variation in Results

As might be expected, experimental results on a practice of this nature have been variable. Varieties do not react alike to the thinning sprays. With certain varieties a given concentration will completely remove the crop; with others, the thinning is quite effective; and with still others, the crop removal is insufficient. For example, to effect commercial thinning, Wealthy requires a higher concentration of spray than Melba. Furthermore, variations may be found within one variety, since the condition of the tree has an effect on the results of the chemical. A strong growing tree with plenty of stout fruiting spurs will be less affected by the sprays than a weak growing tree. Trees suffering from winter injury, poor drainage, or nutritional disturbances, should not be chemically thinned.

Seasonal conditions have an effect on the degree of thinning. Concentrations that give satisfactory thinning one season may not be entirely satisfactory the next season. Variations in the degree of thinning at different locations, even when the same concentration is used, may be the result of differences in the thoroughness of application and gallonage per tree. It is now thought that gallonage per tree may be as important as concentration; in other words, it is the amount of active ingredient applied to the tree that is the governing factor.



— in the larger orchards the high speed sprayer does an excellent job at a big saving in time and money.

Recommendations Based on Investigations

Conducted by the Division of Horticulture, Ottawa

Preliminary trials with Elgetol, a dinitro spray, on potted plants in the greenhouse at the Central Experimental Farm were begun in 1943. Field trials were also started the same year. Over the past eight years, trials have been conducted at the Division of Horticulture, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, and at the Rideau Fruit Farm, Manotick, Ontario. This work has been supplemented since 1948 by investigations conducted at the new Horticultural Substation, near Smithfield, Ontario, in the Lake Ontario apple growing region.

From these investigations, the suitability of this new orchard practice has been established. However, it should be noted that the desired degree of thinning is almost impossible to obtain by the use of chemicals alone. Therefore, chemical thinning should be considered as a supplement to hand-thinning rather than a substitute for it. By using a combination of the two methods, the cost of thinning is greatly reduced, since the bulk of the excess crop is removed by the chemical at a very low cost.

The use of blossom-thinning sprays to control biennial bearing is of prime interest. Biennial bearing trees, when heavily thinned in the "on" year, produce a commercial crop in the "off" year. Such a practice permits the grower to change half of his trees of a given variety to the "off" year and by so doing he can regulate annual production. When the trees are completely changed from the "on" year to the "off" year, they must be heavily thinned to assure a commercial crop in the next season. However, at the Rideau Fruit Farm, observations on Melba trees indicated that those which received the commercially recommended chemical application each year bore annually. Thus, the "off" year — "on" year type of fruiting was eliminated.

Because chemical thinning is influenced by weather and by growing conditions it is impossible to lay down

hard and fast recommendations to fit all conditions. A grower must proceed on a trial basis until he has made a study of his own set of conditions. The first year, a grower should conduct a preliminary trial on a few trees. The safest policy at first is to aim at under-thinning. The spraying should be carried out in a manner similar to that used in applying fungicides and insecticides. However, the advisability of including the thinning sprays with the fungicides and insecticides has, as yet, not been determined.

The chemicals and concentrations recommended on the basis of accumulated data of orchard tests are given in the following table:

CHEMICALS FOR THINNING CERTAIN APPLE VARIETIES

Variety	Dinitro Materials At Full Bloom		Naphthaleneacetic Acid Preparations Oz./100 Gal. (I)	
	Liquid-paste pt./100 gal. (I)	Powder lb./100 gal. (I)	Calyx Stage	Two Weeks After Calyx
Ben Davis	2	1	10	
Crimson Beauty	1½	¾		
Delicious			10	
Duchess	2	1		7½
Early McIntosh	1½	¾		
Fameuse			10	
Lawfam			10	
Macoun				7½
McIntosh				10
Melba	2	1	7½-10	
Northern Spy			5	
Scarlet Pippin	2	1		
Wealthy	2	1	10	
Yellow Transparent	1½	¾		

(I — Imperial)

Tile Drainage Maintenance

Out of sight, out of mind is often true of a tile drainage system, with the result that it does not get the maintenance it should.

Periodic inspection is the best insurance against failures in the system. Though this involves some work, it is less costly than neglecting the system until a major repair is necessary. Inspection during spring run-off and following heavy rains will generally disclose failures in the system.

Blockages in tile lines usually cause washouts or cave-ins. When this occurs the line should be repaired at once, lest silting make it necessary to relay the line above the blockage. Wet spots remaining in the field

for some time after a heavy rain indicate that the system is not working properly.

When tree roots block a tile line, the tiles should be dug up and cleaned out. Where it is not desirable or possible to remove the trees, the field tile within 50 to 75 feet of the trees should be replaced by bell tile cemented at the joints.

Outlets frequently require attention due to faulty construction. They must be properly supported and have free delivery into the discharge ditch. Open ditches are subject to silting and must be cleaned out periodically to provide a free delivery from the tile outlet. Screens should be provided on all outlets to keep out rodents.

Turning The Furrow

Off to a slow start — The first quarter of 1952 presented a different picture from one year ago. Then dealers were building up inventories, consumers were rushing to buy in anticipation of higher prices. To-day, inventories are high, consumers are more cautious. This is having the effect of reducing production. Non-seasonal layoffs, accompanied by a shorter working week for many workers increased during the winter and spring months.

The bright spots — Heavy industry, bolstered by increasing government expenditures on the armament program will continue at a high level of employment. United States capital continues to flow into Canada at a high level creating opportunities for jobs in industry.

Domestic demand for farm products — In 1951 labour income reached record levels and personal savings were double the 1950 levels, these savings plus old age pension payments will help maintain consumer purchasing power until adjustments to the economy have been completed and defense expenditure increased. The demand for food is likely to stay high, even at the expense of non-food items. This would indicate that a larger share of the consumers dollar will be spent for food this year than previously. This trend set in during the last half of 1951 when grocery and meat store sales increased 16 per cent in value over 1950, department store sales increased only 3.4 per cent, clothing 7.7 per cent, while appliance and radio store sales decreased almost 4.8 per cent.

Foreign demand for Canadian farm products — Wheat exports are likely to remain high because of poor crops in Australia and the Argentina. The United States embargo on Canadian livestock and meats has seriously disrupted marketing schedules. To offset this loss, at least partially, the government has entered into a four power trading agreement whereby New Zealand sells beef to the United States, Canada to the United Kingdom, the United States pays dollars to Canada while the United Kingdom pays New Zealand in pounds. The agreement is not official yet, all the kinks may not be out. Indications are that in any case it will cost the Canadian taxpayer several million dollars. The United Kingdom market is closed to Canadian cheese, indications are that the cheese producers will experience some difficulty in getting the product off their hands.

The farm labour situation — The farm labour force is decreasing. It has been estimated that the number of people in agriculture declined by 38,000 between August 1950 and August 1951. During this same period the non-agricultural labour force increased by 185,000. This shift out of agriculture is creating a tight labour situation within agriculture. The present pools of unemployed may retard slightly this movement but the overall effect will be small — the movement out of agriculture will continue. The farm labour situation seems to be shaping up much the same way as last year — tight. Labour will be hard to get for farm work.



*“... the building
of my herd”*

Many a farmer knows that initiative, hard work and the financial support of the bank can all play their part in developing a successful farming operation.

One such man, a rancher in the West, recently wrote to his bank manager:

“I wish to express my appreciation of the way your bank has treated me through the years . . . the encouragement you have given me in the building of my herd. I feel the success we have achieved could hardly have been obtained without your intelligent support.”

The farmer uses bank credit in many ways: to develop his land, buy livestock and equipment, market crops. Aiding Canada's food producers is an important part of the broad service the chartered banks perform for all Canadians.

This advertisement, based on an actual letter, is presented here by

THE BANKS SERVING
YOUR COMMUNITY



40 Million Dollars Reward

EVEN in these days when governments talk glibly in terms of billions, 40 million dollars still seems like a lot of money to the average person. When it represents the amount of production lost due to the spread of weeds through our farmlands it would seem that the time has come for us to take some action.

Weed losses in Ontario, and Quebec figures will be comparable, are reported to be 14 per cent of the total crop value. Reduction in crop yield makes up 10 per cent of this loss and reduction in quality, values and increased costs make up the other 4 per cent. In applying this loss to the 1951 Ontario crop, the Ontario Department of Agriculture estimates that it amounted to over 40 million dollars or \$4.65 per tillable acre. Even these large totals they state do not take into account money, effort, inconvenience on non-crop land such as lawns, parks and roadsides nor the damage to health, morale and income from exposure to Ragweed pollen or Poison Ivy.

The cost of the necessary control measures is much less when action is taken at the right time. One hundred per cent of the 40 million dollar loss can be recovered by timely action of all farmers.

Common Mustard

Common Mustard, sometimes called Charlock or Her-rick, is one of the worst weeds in Eastern Canada because of the competition it offers to grain crops. This prolific, strong-growing plant is found in all cultivated land and robs grain of moisture and soil fertility, and thus reduces grain yields by a considerable amount. Common Mustard has reduced grain yields by as much as 10 bushels per acre. It is a common impurity in feed grains, and if found in sufficient quantity it may make the feed unpalatable to livestock. This weed is classed as Primary Noxious and if it is present in seed, the grade will be lowered.

Common Wild Mustard is an annual with fibrous roots and an upright stock, from one to three feet high, from which branches the upper part of the weed. It is generally recognized by its showy, yellow flowers which are at least a third of an inch across. The plant blooms from June through to September, producing seed pods up to two inches in length. This seed is black and about one-sixteenth of an inch in diameter, and somewhat resembles turnip or rape seed.

Two things make this weed difficult to control. One is that each plant produces about 15,000 seeds, so that with any heavy infestation of Mustard, the ground becomes polluted with the seed. The other side of this is that the seed has great vitality, and will remain dormant in the ground for a great many years, after which they will germinate when brought to the surface, and produce strong healthy plants.



A rough permanent pasture. This is the type of pasture which dries up badly during a summer drought. It is under conditions such as these that weeds get a good start.

Eradication of Mustard calls for a great deal of persistence once the ground has become polluted. Where only a few plants are present, hand pulling is the best method of eradication. Good after-harvest cultivation and special care before seeding will bring the seeds to the surface, where they will germinate. The young plants can then be easily destroyed.

Chemical control has been found very effective. Three to five ounces of 2-4, D per acre will take care of any Mustard found growing in the grain crops, not seeded down to Alfalfa or Clover. The best time to use this method is when the plant is in the three to five leaf stage. The use of Dinitro compounds is recommended when the field has been seeded down to Alfalfa and Clover. More water is required for applying these latter chemicals, and the directions given in the "Guide to Chemical Weed Control" should be followed closely.

The weed cannot be cleared up in a year, either with chemicals or cultivation, and a regular programme over a period of several years is necessary to control Common Mustard in polluted fields.

Yellow Rocket

Yellow Rocket, like Common Mustard has a showy, conspicuous yellow flower. However, there are several ways in which it can be distinguished. It is biennial or perennial in its habit of growth and its dark shiny leaves grow in clusters. The leaves are cut or divided with one long terminal lobe at the end, and several narrow sections closer to the stem. Upright stems shoot up to hold the brightly coloured flowers and later the slender seed pods, with their numerous seeds.

The worst feature of Yellow Rocket seems to be that it is spreading rapidly. In fact, it is spreading more rapidly than any other weed in Eastern Canada. It frequently gets its start as an impurity in clover seed, but once established it is also spread by birds and soon covers a



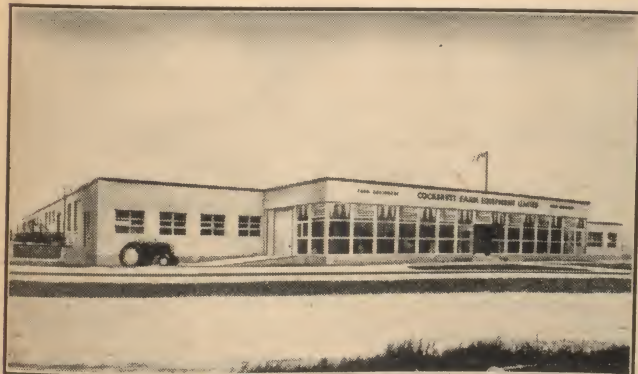
This field is already well overgrown with weeds. Not only are they taking up space which should be reserved for grasses, but they are drawing on the limited supply of nutrients available.

great deal of territory. Yellow Rocket prefers locations which have a tendency to be damp, but is generally found in pastures, hay meadows and along roadsides.

As it likes damp grounds, good drainage and cultivation are the key to its control. After harvest and early spring cultivation will certainly do much to control it. However, if a severe infestation is found in a new seeding of clover, it is recommended that it be mowed when in full bloom. Then a cutting of hay taken off, followed by the field being plowed to destroy the old roots. If it is left in such a field, it will soon take over.

Another suggestion for control is offered through the use of chemicals. However, care must be taken as it will damage the clover. 2-4, D is very effective, and if the area is not too large in the clover field, the affected spots could be sprayed. Where no clover is present, and the crop is not susceptible to it. 2-4, D can be applied at the rate of 8 ounces per acre. This will give effective control and stop the spread of the weed.

Another alternative is to use sheep. The animals may be pastured on rough land, where cultivation or spraying are impractical. They provide an effective and economical means of controlling this rapidly spreading weed.



This is the new Montreal branch office and warehouse of the Cockshutt Farm Equipment Ltd., at 5500 Ferrier St. in the Town of Mount Royal, Que., which will serve as a focal point for operations in the Province of Quebec. There are 188 experienced Cockshutt dealers in this province.



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- New edition of the booklet, "Farm Improvement Loans" is available. For your copy write the Advertising Dept., Head Office, Montreal.

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Why Organize?

by Colin Muirhead

How can we bring some control over the fluctuations in hog prices? It's a big question and to answer it we must have control of all the facts. Some of the problems we face are outlined in this article.

DURING the past year the price of hogs has fluctuated from a high of \$42. per hundredweight to a government supported floor price of \$26. per hundredweight, and in many cases they have dropped even lower than this so-called floor price. People are getting out of hog production to-day; not too many months ago they were getting in. This is a poor way to do business—in again out again; in the long run it doesn't pay off in dollars and cents. It's not good for the farmer and it's not good for the consumer, in the former case he never knows what price he'll get for his hogs when they are marketed, and fluctuating prices makes the consumer grumble.

It would seem them that uncertainty in production and marketing is bad for both the farmer and the consumer. What can we do to remedy this situation? First of all let's take a look at what some other people have done when faced with this same situation. This doesn't mean that we should copy them, but it may give us an idea of what is possible.

The Ontario government passed The Farm Products Marketing Act in 1950. Under this act producers, providing they get a two-thirds majority, can set up an association to engage in the marketing of their products. In the case of hogs, the producers set up the Ontario Marketing Agency. The hope is that all hogs will be marketed through this organization.

The immediate problem we face is what to do with our surplus hogs. We can't export them over the United States embargo. The United Kingdom can't take them for lack of dollars with which to pay. Is there a solution, and if so what is it? As a temporary measure the Federal government announced changes in the premium payments. These are of little help for while we can get the premium on overweight hogs, we are paid for the meat on a lower than "A" category. In effect we are little better off than before.

We have to look at the problem from two angles, the short run and the long run. What measures are we going to take right now, and how are we going to plan for the future. These are important questions because approximately 21% of all hogs are raised in Quebec. We have the second largest hog population in Canada. Past experience, whether we are big or little producers has shown us that jumping in and out of the hog market does nobody any good.

The farmers of Ontario and B.C. have a long record



If an organization is to be set up and run successfully, whether it be a co-op or a commodity group, a lot of hard thinking must be done before any actual results can be achieved.

of organizational activity. In B.C., for instance, the fruit growers sell all their produce through the B.C. Tree Fruits. In Ontario the cheese producers have even entered the export market. These organizations were not built up overnight, they resulted from an educational program based upon study and research into the problems to be faced. Broadly speaking it can be said that these organizations were the outgrowths of the co-operative movement. It was the techniques learned in the running of this type of organization and the feeling of mutual dependence of one farmer upon another which led to the formation of these commodity groups.

We have to start by getting out of our heads the idea that commodity groups are pressure groups whose sole purpose is to raise the price to the farmer. In the first instance these groups should be advisory. They should keep the farmer in touch with economic conditions. How many hogs do we need for domestic consumption? Is there any change in the numbers of sows marketed from one period to another? How many sows have been bred to farrow? What about the export market? These questions should be answered for the benefit of the producers.

How is the price going to be set that will bear some relationship to the supply and demand situation? In Ontario suggestions have been made that a board of ten carry out this function, five from the producers and five from the packers. It has also been suggested that the price relationship be set by having the stockyards assume greater importance. The important fact to bear in mind is that no organization can be set up unless it has full control of the facts, and this can only come about through study. There must be a feeling of need for the organization, whether the price is high or low. In other words we must realize the need for the organization and be willing to go through with it all the way.

Information Please!

This section should make interesting reading, for it is given over to the problems of our readers. Problems sent in by Farm Forum and other groups will be dealt with here.

PRIOR to the advent of the white man Canada was, except for the prairies, clothed in an unbroken forest mantle which tempered alike the summer heat and the winter cold. Except for small Indian clearings the great trees dominated the eastern and far western landscape. The pines, elms, oaks, maples, hickories and poplars held sway, while beneath, the forest floor was deep in litter and the streams and rivers ran clear and cold. Nature was in harmony with her surroundings and seldom was this harmony destroyed.

The coming of the white man saw the first inroads made upon the primeval forest. Cutting, clearing and burning by the early settlers gradually laid the land bare, upsetting the delicate balance and making the trees prey to disease and the cleared land to floods and erosion.

The following question sent in by an Eastern Township farmer indicates the growing concern that is felt by a great many people over the destruction of this balance. Economic necessity is slowly forcing us to the realization that we cannot forever pillage the land. It is a healthy sign this awakening. It heralds the increasing use of measures designed to conserve rather than waste our resources.

Question: "Where do the diseases come from that are destroying our forests?"

The question was answered by Mr. Rene Pomerleau, Director of the Division of Forest Pathology, Quebec Department of Lands and Forests.

Answer: Mr. Pomerleau suggests that there are several diseases that are attacking our forests. "However," he continues, "the question is probably referring to the killing of hardwood and conifers which is occurring throughout Eastern Canada and the North-eastern sections of the United States. During the last twenty years," Mr. Pomerleau states, "ashes and birches have been subject to a disease known as die-back which attacks the trees from the top and works down. In later years the disease has spread to the sugar maple and beech.

The cause of this trouble is attributable to drought which occurs during the summer months. These dry periods are more frequent now than formerly since the forest was removed by fire, cutting and settlement over large areas of the country. Most of the birch stands in the Maritimes and Eastern Quebec have



The forest not only adds beauty to the rural scene, but it acts as a great stabilizing factor in retarding excessive run-off and combatting erosion.

been destroyed for this reason, and now the farmers in the Eastern Townships and around Montreal are complaining that their sugar maple groves are disappearing rapidly.

Many farmers know that the water table has dropped during the last ten or fifteen years. Many of them remember, for instance, when a particular stream, well or ditch used to hold water the year 'round and which is now empty during three or four months in the summer, and it is an exceptional year when pastures stay green throughout the summer. This slowly decreasing water table weakens the resistance of trees to disease and hastens their downfall."

"What," Mr. Pomerleau asks, "can we do to prevent this?" "It is not," he says, "an easy problem, for it involves an increasing awareness over the whole country of the need for the adoption of conservation measures. Cutting the forest, draining large areas of land should be discontinued. As for the individual farmer, he must practise better woodlot management. He should farm the woodlot on a sustaining basis so that the stand is not opened and the ground exposed to sunlight."





Macdonald College was host to some 3,000 visitors on May 31st. These photos show something of the day's activities. 1. Prof. Raymond unveils a plaque on the John F. Snell House, honouring Dr. Snell who was Head of the Chemistry Department for almost 30 years. 2. The Household Science displayed new trends in textiles. 3. The "gadgets" in the Physics Department display kept the visitors mystified. 4, 6. Tractors and farm wagons toured the grounds all day to provide novel transportation. All the tours started and finished at the Main Building (9). Number 8. Some of the people who cooked the chickens at the barbecue that finished off the day: Reg. Wyatt, Emile Lods, Alf. Maw and Nick Nikolaiczuk. The crowd at the barbecue are seen in picture 5. Information about courses, tours, exhibits, etc. was furnished by these members of the staff shown in Number 7. Number 10 is a group of former graduates of the College, and Number 11 is the booth operated by the I.O.D.E. where light refreshments were available. In Number 12 Mrs. Walter M. Stewart formally opens the Stewart Phytorium, the latest addition to the facilities of the Department of Plant Pathology.



Left to right, Neil Creller, Eric Larsen, Georg Hansen and L. Simm father of Lorne Simm, and owner of the farm to which Eric Larsen has gone. The other student farmer is with N. H. Rutherford.

These young Danish farmers, all graduates of agricultural schools, recently arrived in Canada and have been placed with farmers in Quebec through co-operation with the member bodies of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture in this province.

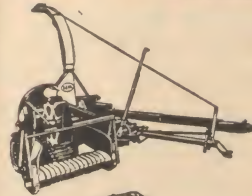
These young men have found homes with farmer members of the Quebec Farm Forums near Howick, Quebec. On their arrival in Montreal, the young men where photographed with Neil Creller, President of the Quebec Council of Farm Forums.

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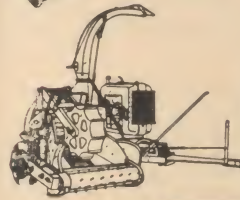


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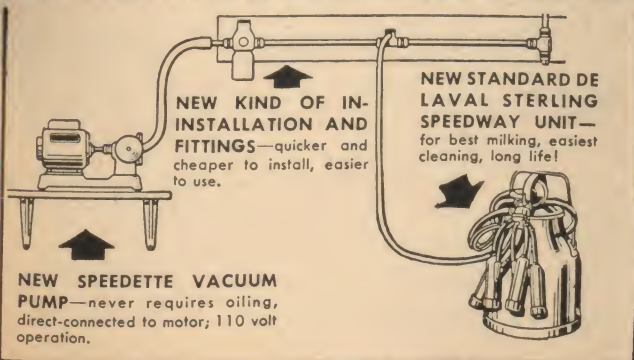
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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec
Department of Agriculture*

National Barley Contest Extended

The National Barley Contest will be held again this year, and its scope will be extended to include eleven counties in Eastern Quebec. This means that farmers in the central, southern and western part of the province will be eligible to compete, starting from Rivière-du-Loup and Quebec counties.

The Barley Improvement Institute, and the Brewers' Association are putting up a total of \$1,680 for prize money this year; there are eight regions in the contest, in each of which \$160 in prize money will be available, with \$60 as the first prize. In the provincial contest the prize money is \$400, with \$150 as the first prize.

Farmers entering the contest are required to sow not less than five acres of either Montcalm or O.A.C. 21, preferably registered or certified seed. At least 40 bushels must be cleaned for inspection before the first of November. The crop will be inspected in the field during the summer and the grain examined after the harvest.

Mr. Auger, Field Husbandry chief, emphasizes a few points that should be remembered; high quality registered or certified seed; treated against disease; proper choice of land on which to grow the crop, well fertilized and

drained. The ideal is a field used the previous season for a cultivated crop.

Weeds will reduce yields, but weed seeds can be taken out of the crop by proper cleaning. The greatest danger to a prize-winning crop comes from seeds of other grain that may be mixed with the barley-oats, wheat, buckwheat etc. Threshing must be done carefully so as not to damage the barley, and cleaning must be especially thorough. Finally, the harvest grain must have good germinating power, which will be the case if it is harvested under the best conditions.

Mr. Auger emphasizes the increase in the yields of barley that have been achieved by farmers who have been in the contest in former years. Average yields have been climbing steadily since the first contest was organized. In 1946 the average was only 29 bushels per acre, taking only the yields from farmers in the contest. In 1947 it was 32, in 1948, it went to 39, up to 45 in 1949, to 51 in 1950 and to almost 52 in 1951. Quality improved too. 26% of the grain graded No. 1 the first year, 70% in 1950. Last year's weather brought the average down to 54%.

New Veterinarians For Quebec

Twenty-six veterinary surgeons graduated from the Veterinary School at St. Hyacinthe this spring and received their diplomas from Mgr. Olivier Maurault, Rector of the University of Montreal, in the presence of Minister of Agriculture Barré and other representatives of the Department of Agriculture.

Dr. Gustave Labelle, Director of the School, thanked the Provincial Department for having provided the funds to make the School a really worth-while one, and also the Department of Youth for having provided \$12,000 for bursaries for the students. The funds needed for construction of the new buildings are in hand, and building is expected to start soon.

The Department of Agriculture provided study-grants for two of last year's graduates to enable them to do advanced work. One of them went to Alfort in France, and the other to Cornell University.

Total registration at the school this year was 125.

Lime Bonus Continues

Quebec farmers are still large-scale users of lime to correct soil acidity, with the counties of Bellechasse, Dorchester, Lotbinière, Matapédia and Rimouski the heaviest users last year. The Department points out that forage crops are being grown more extensively in Quebec. Good grass crops should contain high percentages of legumes, and these, especially alfalfa and ladino, do not do well on acid soils. The more of these crops that are grown, the greater the need for liming if really satisfactory crops are to be obtained.

The Department, in collaboration with the Federal authorities, pays transportation grants to help farmers with their lime purchases. A small change has been made in the arrangements this year, however; lime hauled by truck will be bonused at the rate of 10 cents per ton mile for the first 10 miles, and 5 cents per ton miles for the next 20 miles, which brings the total bonus up to a possible \$2.00 per ton, instead of \$1.75 as in former years, for a haul of 30 miles.

Blueberries Are A Two-Million Dollar Crop

Folks living in the central part of Quebec don't usually think of the blueberry as a cash crop, but to farmers in the Lake St. John and Chicoutimi areas it is an important source of revenue. It will surprise many of us to learn that the 1951 crop brought in \$1,976,800 which is at the rate of about 11 cents a pound for the 17,970,922 pounds picked. (Think of the work in picking that many blueberries!)

And all this is clear profit, practically, for there is no planting or cultivating to be done. The colonization districts particularly appreciate this extra revenue, which amounted to over a million dollars in Lake St. John and Chicoutimi, and \$806,000 in Temiscamingue.

Beekeepers Asked For Information

Beekeepers in Quebec are asked by the Bee Division of the Provincial Horticulture Service to report the quantity of dark honey they will likely have for sale this year, and to note the type of pack and the approximate price.

There is a renewed interest in dark honey on the part of certain manufacturers, and a campaign of publicity has recently been planned which will run in some 800 French and English papers to acquaint the public with the value and advantages of the darker honeys. It is hoped that demand for other than clover honey will be stimulated by this campaign, and when the expected orders come in, the Department of Agriculture wants to be in a position to be able to say where they can be filled.

Cheesemaking Awards Presented

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Trepanier, recently made formal presentations of the trophies won by Quebec cheesemakers at the Belleville show held last November.

The Cooperative Federee cup was presented to Pierre Lambert, cheesemaker for the Honfleur Agricultural Co-operative, and Louis Philippe Caron, maker for the St. Donat Co-operative, received the Leclerc Trophy, a silver tray, offered by the Department of Agriculture for having had the highest average score throughout the year.

Mr. Trepanier pointed out the publicity value of attending the Empire Cheese Show at Belleville, and had no fears of the ability of Quebec cheesemakers to meet any competition that might come from the Ontario makers. He felt that our dairy industry is making real progress, and hopes to see still more of our cheese at the show next year.

Flax Crop All Sold

All the 1951 flax crop has been sold, and prospects for sale of the 1952 crop appear excellent. Plenty of seed is available for 1952, and it appears that at least as much will be sown this year at last.

Artificial Breeding Is Spreading

The newest artificial breeding unit to be established in Quebec was set up toward the end of April at Ste. Anne de la Perade, in affiliation with the Provincial Centre at St. Hyacinthe. Some 250 farmers attended a meeting to organize the unit, and heard Claude Hayes, on the staff of the Centre, describe its growth since it was first established in 1948.

Within the first year the Centre had 15 units in operation, with 1,041 farmers taking advantage of its services, having 4,329 cows bred artificially. In 1949-50 there were 24 units with 2,014 members who bred 9,745 cows. Three more were organized the next year and 16,247 cows were bred. In 1951-52 10 units were added, giving a total membership of 4,596 and 24,358 cows bred.

The percentage of successful services has increased consistently as the operators and farmers became more familiar with the technique, and methods of distribution of semen were improved. In the first year of operation the percentage was 53%; it is now 66%, which compares very favourably with the 58% that can be expected of natural matings.

The new unit includes the three parishes of La Perade, Batiscan and St. Prosper, and has guaranteed to breed at least 360 cows. The creation of the unit is one of the results of the Champlain County farm improvement programme, aimed at doubling crop and livestock production in five years, and it appears that other units will be formed in this part of the province before long, since there is keen interest among farmers of the region in artificial insemination.

Seed Analysis Is Continuing

The Department of Agriculture is continuing its studies on the kind of seed being used by the average farmer in the province, and the investigations are made right on the farm. Technicians visit the farms and take samples right out of the bags that were used, and analyse the seed in the Quebec laboratory. Each farmer gets a detailed report later in the summer, so he knows exactly what he was putting into the ground. Similar work done during past years has shown that a great many farmers are using seed that is far from satisfactory; it has poor germinating ability, it contains weeds, it may be mixed varieties or may be varieties not suited to the part of the province where it is being used. The authorities hope that the reports will convince those farmers whose seed is judged unsatisfactory that they should find some new source of supply next year.

This year samples are being taken in the Chicoutimi, Lake St. John and Roberval.

Strippings

by Gordon W. Geddes

We got just the right weather for putting grass seed on the fall rye early, only I forgot to be ready with the ladino seed and had to wait a week for it. However, we put it on April 29. I sowed some brome by hand first and of course Wes had to have a bucket and sow too. If the rye had not been planted so late it would have been pretty big for the job by then. If one expects to pasture rye it should be in earlier as it grows slowly in the spring if it doesn't make much growth in the fall. We tried the same day to sow some oats where the cars ran over our field in the winter hoping they would be ready for hay with the rest of the field. However, it has been so cold and wet since that it looks as if none would grow.

A short time ago, through a great deal of co-operative effort, Ways Mills got a new trailer type fire pump with an old army truck to pull it. At the time we all hoped it would not be needed but some of the men practised quite a bit with it. This spring they had two fires to control. The first was right in the village and got a good start before it was noticed. With the river to supply water they

were able to save quite a bit of the building but it took a long time to really put it out. It was a hard building to fight a fire in as there were a lot of blind corners on fire that were hard to reach. Aside from what they saved keeping the fire under control reduced the danger to neighbouring buildings.

The next one was something we haven't seen for some time here, a barn set on fire by lightning. It came at a bad time as the farmer had just been feeding hay to his cattle. The bolt came right down the feed chute, killed a cow in front of him and fired the hay he had fed like a fuse. It rather stunned him too, but he and his wife managed to get the horses and most of the cattle outside. It was so quick that some of the cattle were burnt. One cow was killed at once and another died the next day. George saw the fire right away as did quite a few others. It is across the river from us but we had two miles to go to get there. By then the stable was all ablaze, but the L which was full of hogs was not so bad. There were no doors to the outside, only small windows high in the walls. All we had to work with was a light axe but eventually I broke a hole under one window. Then we found the pigs were down behind a high cement wall. Two others jumped in and managed to lift out one pig before it got too hot. Then I broke in on the other side but it did us no good at all. Twenty-seven hogs, along with seven calves burnt with us only a few feet away. Quite a bit of machinery went with no insurance on stock or machinery.

When the fire pump arrived there was not too much to do but if the house had been threatened they would have been badly needed. They did save a small henhouse. The next day they were called back to put out the fire in the hay as the wind was blowing right on the house.

After the fire died down a bit, Carl Corey, our county F.R. representative, tried to get help to put the

cattle in for the night. He didn't find any volunteers so George, Mac and I went with him and cleaned out an old barn for the young cattle. Then we started for another barn with the cows. Some others joined us and we finally got them in. We got home about nine o'clock. George and Mac had finished supper before the fire so they started milking while I ate and joined them for the finish.

With only nineteen hundred dollars insurance on the barn the young farmer wanted to build again. A canvass was made to get some help and some lumber, cash and labour was promised. However he has spent thirteen hundred dollars or more for galvanized iron and that is only the beginning. It created a big interest in lightning rods and quite a few buildings have been rodded here since then. Probably a good many insurance policies will be revised as well. Only a few days before a big barn was burnt with sixty-five head of stock lost and nearly all the machinery and no insurance on stock or tools. Insurance is a big bill if you never need it but it is better to pay and not need it. For those who don't have and then do need it, it is really tough.

This doesn't leave much space for what should be the big topic of the season, the spring planting. However, there isn't much to say about it either. It has been so cold and wet that we have nothing planted except some garden and I guess that is not going to grow. We did manage to clean up a bad corner near our pond-to-be and get it plowed. We also got out a big elm stump though we found a heavy tractor and a green elm stump a hard combination on the chains we have used in horse farming.

We expected an early growth of pasture as we fertilized and manured so much of it. But the rye field was small and late and the grass can't grow without some sun so the pasture is short yet. However the cows are coming up in their milk and have lost their appetite for hay very fast.

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Fun."**



Q.W.I.



The Leadership Training Course has come and gone. "The best yet", was the enthusiastic comment made by the small number of "repeaters". A few unavoidable cancellations at the last moment reduced the number to 35, but keen interest was shown in all classes and the evaluation session at the close of the course produced many constructive suggestions for the future. Some of the highlights of this course were caught by Mr. Walsh's busy camera and are here recorded for the benefit of the many W.I. members who had to stay at home.

Picture No. 1—Everyone took Gardening. Off to see the grounds, with the instructor, Mr. D. W. Pettit, of the Horticulture Department, at the extreme right.

Picture No. 2—Crafts every afternoon. Miss Elizabeth Meikle, Handicraft Staff member, at right rear with her class in leatherwork.

Picture No. 3—Hooked rugs here. Small sample mats were made under the supervision of Mrs. T. B. Vincent, of the Sutton W.I., an expert in this craft.

Picture No. 4—Miss F. Elizabeth Campbell, also of the Q.W.I. staff, leads another group through the intri-

cacies of those finishing touches that "makes" your garment.

Picture No. 5—One of the first classes in the morning was "New Life For Your Programmes". Films were one of the helps recommended and here some of the class are hard at work learning the mysteries of operating a projector.

Picture No. 6—A few took the course in advanced weaving. Here they are making samples of a variety of patterns, including plaids. Miss Ida R. Bruneau, of the Q.W.I. staff had charge of this work.

Picture No. 7—Shows the entire group with some of the instructors, as they pose on the front steps of the Main Building, where most of the classes were held.

A class in Recreation, Miss Campbell leader; Prof. A. W. Maw's ever popular demonstration, and the usual evening discussions on various topics connected with "Running the Organization", rounded out the week's activities.

Nor must one fail to mention the party on the closing night, with the recreation group in charge. A fitting climax to five days of "Facts, Fingers, Fun".

"That Wee Bit Of Leisure"

by Helen Kirby

IT TAKES a lot of living and loving to make a house a HOME, and a great deal of elbow-grease as well. That wee bit of leisure you W.I.'s want help about can be available but you will have to plan for it and make some changes in your ways of housekeeping. In grandmother's day it took all her time to keep the house shining, family well fed and clean, plus all the buttons sewed on. Now with rural electrification and its many aids, better cooking methods, and more ready to eat foods, things should be easier.

Do you really like cooking, cleaning, washing or mending, seven days a week? If so, don't bother to read any further, for we are trying to find some corners we can cut to save work and time in the house, by the process of elimination.

So, to begin. While house cleaning, sort and weed out the *non-essential* things in your house. The clothes still too good to throw away but not worn out, may be passed on to less fortunate folk. The school nurse, V.O.N. or district nurse always knows who needs them. Books may be sent to social agencies or out West to newly opened mission libraries. Extra furniture, dishes, etc. can go to the local auction sales. Discarded toys go to Boy Scout workshops to be re-conditioned for Santa Claus. And so on and on. Getting rid of those unused articles will mean less work from then on. Burn the real junk we all accumulate but DON'T just store it away to be gone over next year. Be quite firm with yourself about this.

Now that we have gotten the decks cleared for action, so to speak, let's investigate the field of plastics as labour savers, for curtains that need no ironing, upholstery fabrics to be cleaned with a damp cloth, even bedspreads that are dirt-proof. Such lovely colours, with many patterns and weights to choose from. A little bird told me that our demonstrator may be able to help us along these lines soon. Next clear out the linen cupboard; any white cotton to spare should go to the Cancer Society. They need it more than you!

Now we come to the food department. Plan your meals for days ahead, then double up on the cooking, thus saving time, dishwashing and fuel. Do you budget the year's canning or just keep on storing food away "to save it," but not yourself? There are always friends who will gladly help you use up fresh fruit or vegetables. Make a plan at the start of the canning season, estimating about how much of each thing you will be likely to use during the year, allow some extra for guests and then stick to it. Left over canned stuff means handling it in the spring when cleaning and it is never as succulent as the current year's pack. Another wrinkle is to budget the year's pack in the fall into month's, or even week's rations, thus being sure that the variety will be main-

tained and you are not left in March with all corn, apples or one sort for food.

Iron less of the everyday things. Who wants to stick in the house over a hot iron when they could be outdoors in the sun, soaking up those much needed vitamins?

Tactfully inform your friends and neighbours that telephone calls during morning or meal hours are not convenient. If you must use the phone then, make it brief. These long-winded gossip talks fests can, and do, use up such a lot of your time.

In other words then—**WORK WHEN YOU WORK** and so have time to relax. Watch that clock! not to see how it is getting ahead of you but just to be sure you aren't dawdling. If you really want this spare time you will have to be very strong-minded with yourself and your belongings. Try to get the family to co-operate with you. Let children do some of the smaller jobs, even if they aren't as well done. It's good training.

All that I have said you have likely heard before, many times, but to read it does make it stick better. So good luck for a try for some time off and may you enjoy it to the full.

The Pageant Goes West

A pageant, "Canada Calls", written and directed by one of the members of the Harwood W.I. (then Vaudreuil-Dorion) Mrs. Dora Wyse, is winning deserved recognition. First presented at Macdonald College in May 1951, with the entire cast composed of members of that branch, it was given again by request as part of the entertainment offered the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, when guests of the Q.W.I. for their biennial convention a year ago. It met with a most enthusiastic reception and in the late winter a letter was received by Mrs. Wyse from the National Convenor of Agriculture, Mrs. Robt. Scarth, Isabella, Man., asking if her branch might borrow the script. This was loaned and recently Mrs. Wyse had the following letter, which tells its own story.

"Just a wee note to tell you we have presented the pageant to a full house, with complete cast and with an excellent reception.

All 21 members of the cast were members of our own Isabella W.I. Not one refused to accept the role—they practised hard and faithfully. We made all the costumes and all this in a strictly rural community with nearly every member a farmer's wife, and you know what that means in April and May. I am so thrilled and so grateful to you.

We are presenting it again at our District Convention and again at a near by town."

The Month With The W.I.

First meetings of the new W.I. year are the reports this month. Programmes show a rather similar pattern, the model drawn up for this year must have found favour.

The Red Cross drive, held in the early spring, is reflected in these reports. Nearly every branch mentions a donation, and every day seems to be "Shut-In Day", where the W.I. is concerned, a neighbourly thought that is never forgotten.

Argenteuil: Arundel reports a well attended meeting with several guests present. Brownsburg's meeting was planned by Mrs. N. E. Smillie, Citizenship convenor. Residents from various countries were present and each gave a talk on the customs of her native land, also a display of flags and pictures. The branch has completed courses in Home Nursing and Painting for Pleasure. A new member was enrolled. At Frontier, Mrs. A. Graham, Publicity convenor, gave a paper, followed by a discussion. Lachute had a demonstration on sandwich making, given by Miss Janet McOuat, of the Fannie Farmer School, Boston. The county president was a guest speaker. Morin Heights established a \$25 scholarship to be given to a Grade X pupil who is going on to the next grade. Pioneer heard a talk by Mr. J. S. Giles on his trip to England. Upper Lachute and East End found the talk on School Fairs, given by Mr. K. Russel of the High School staff, very helpful. Mr. Russel also gave a talk on Agriculture at Jerusalem-Bethany.

Bonaventure: Black Cape is making a scrap book on Canada, to include interesting events as well as some of the many beauty spots. Mrs. H. M. Henderson gave instructions on the making of slip covers. Grand Cascapedia held a display of old China, and Mrs. Philip Barter gave an address on "Milk, the Juice of Life." Marcil held a card party which netted \$45 for the treasury. A donation of money and used cotton was sent to the Cancer Society, and a talk on "New Medicine for Cancer", was given by the convenor of Welfare and Health. New Richmond received the portfolio on Quebec Province, made by pupils of Grades 1 to 7 of the school. The Publicity convenor told of the work of the W.I. in other countries. At Port Daniel, Mrs. P. N. Sweetman was winner of the pot holder contest. The value of milk in the diet was stressed by the convenor of Home Economics. Gifts were given to two members having the best attendance for the year. Restigouche expressed approval of the adoption of an European child by the county. Mrs. M. Moores gave a talk on "Gardening." Shigawake heard helpful hints on spring house cleaning and some useful information on stain removal was given by the convenor of Home Economics.

Brome: Abercorn featured a quiz on dates of interest in history, conducted by Mrs. S. Cowan, county secretary.

A letter of thanks for overseas parcels was read and school fair seeds were distributed. A surprise package was donated by Mrs. Vassidy, proceeds to swell the treasury. Linen was donated to the Cancer Society. Austin made plans for the May convention. The jar of marmalade, donated by Mrs. Patterson was won by Mrs. Cochrane. Knowlton's Landing planned a barn dance, and the surprise package here, donated by Mrs. Ewing, was won by Mrs. Elsdon. South Bolton held a card party, at which a pair of socks donated by Mrs. F. Scruton was sold for the benefit of the travelling library fund. Sutton heard a reading, "Starting a Hope Chest", by Mrs. Baker. Surprise packages were featured here also, and guessing contests.

Chat-Huntingdon: Aubrey-Riverfield enjoyed a talk by Mrs. Arnold McKell on her trip through the Rocky Mountains. Mrs. G. Easton gave a demonstration on a simple method of converting a pullover sweater into a coat sweater. A donation was given the Easter Seal Fund. Dundee had a quiz, Mrs. Gardiner winning the prize. The Publicity convenor gave a talk on her work, followed by a discussion. Franklin heard articles on Publicity, "Local Seed Potato Bonus" and "Some Musts for Teachers". A public speaking contest was held in the school, with prizes given to each child competing. Hemmingford held a public speaking contest also, with prizes for each contestant. Huntingdon had a demonstration on how to use a cookie press, given by Mrs. C. Dahms. A collection of prized possessions and antiques, belonging to the members, was on display. Howick made plans for the County annual. Mrs. Lang gave a talk on "Frozen Foods and How to Prepare them for the Locker", and a paper was heard on "Convenient Kitchens", with pictures of before and after. Three quilts were given to the Friendly Home. At Ormstown, Mr. J. Lang, Howick, gave a talk on "Chickens, from Incubation to Maturity". Many pictures were brought in to be assembled for the scrap book.

Compton: Bury Juniors sent Easter boxes to the Children's Memorial Hospital. The Junior sweaters were given out and a history of the branch is being written. Canterbury heard "History of the Townships", and "The Life of our Governor-General". Scotstown members are canvassing for the Red Cross. A film was shown. East Angus had a paper drive and cotton was donated to the Cancer Society. A member told of her trip to Montana and showed pictures of the same.

Gaspe: L'Anse Aux Cousins entertained the county president. A parcel post sale netted \$25 for the funds and a military whist brought in \$73. Wakeham held a scrambled word contest. A parcel post and food sale is planned. York sent monthly overseas parcel and names of other countries with W.I. were given as rollcall.

Gatineau: Aylmer East catered for the banquet of the Masonic Bowling League. Crib quilts are being made for Save the Children and prizes were given to children who entered scrap books in the contest sponsored by the branch. Breckenridge held an annual meeting with one charter member present, Mrs. T. Hurdman. Eardley held a cake contest with prizes and a paper, "Chintz and Print", was read. The branch is catering for meals at a public auction. Kazabazua distributed seeds and fair programmes to the school children, and a paper, "The W.I. is Growing Up", was read by the publicity convenor. Rupert is continuing a series of popular dances. Wakefield heard a paper, "The Balanced Diet", and recipes for a quick supper dish were part of the Home Economics program. Sewing and other work is being done for the Gatineau Memorial Hospital and \$500 was raised for this cause. A basket of fruit was sent to a W.I. member, the mother of the first baby to be born in the new hospital. A well known Canadian artist, a summer resident, donated a picture to be sold for the benefit of the hospital.

Jacques Cartier: Miss M. S. Taylor of the Cancer Society was guest speaker at Ste. Annes and showed films in connection with her talk. Donations of \$5 each, were voted the Cancer Society and the Q.W.I. Service Fund. Two new members were enrolled.

Megantic: Inverness reports that the history of this branch, 30 years old, has been compiled. Donations of cloth, which had been sent by various firms, were sold. Film showings are planned.

Missisquoi: Cowansville renewed membership in the UN Society of Canada. Mrs. Winsor gave a talk, summarizing the subjects dealt with at the General Assembly in Paris. At Dunham a paper on Home Economics was given by Mrs. Doherty. Fordyce held a rug-making class. A food parcel was sent the Austrian "adoptee", and \$25 was voted to Cowansville High School Bursary Fund. Stanbridge East had a course in rug-making, also, and ordered books from the Travelling Library. Linen to the Cancer Society was reported. The Memorial Hall, built in 1922, which the W.I. helped to sponsor, was destroyed by fire.

Pontiac: Bristol Busy Bees collected clothing for overseas relief. The program, in charge of Mrs. A. Russel, featured a paper on "How to Repair Broken Chinaware and Pottery". A quilt was completed. Elmside bought seeds for the school fair and sent used clothing to fire victims. Mrs. W. J. Murray gave a paper on "How the W.I. has Grown", outlining the activities of this branch since its formation in Dec. 13, 1913. Fort Coulonge is planning to purchase a movie projector for the school. The winning team of the Polio Penny race was honoured as guests of the losing team at the home of Mrs. S. B. Dorff. At Quyon the paintings of those taking the course, Painting for Pleasure, were on exhibition. The Quyon Hockey Team was entertained at Pine Lodge.

Wyman exchanged slips and bulbs, and Mrs. W. Campbell, convenor of Agriculture, gave a paper on "Perennial Borders". Mrs. R. Graham and Mrs. Kelley were appointed to look after the printing of the W.I. cookbook and one new member enrolled. Journeying to the meeting in a hay rack on a wagon drawn by a tractor, was an unusual experience for those who did arrive at the meeting by this unique "taxi".

Quebec: Valcartier voted \$25 towards the record library in the school. A dance was planned.

Rouville: Abbotsford had a two week's course in needlepoint and rug-making under the supervision of Miss Bruneau. A talk on "Civil Defence", was given by Miss Marshall and a reading by Mrs. W. M. Bowley, "The Cup that Cheers but does not Inebriate". The rollcall, "Pay double the size of your shoe", netted \$2.92.

Richmond: Cleveland voted in favour of pooling of fares. A "Mix-master" demonstration was given by the Home Economics convenor, and a display of small articles auctioned off netted \$7. Dennison's Mills heard a paper on "The Growth of the W.I.". Plans were made for repair work on the local Community Hall, and a sale realized the sum of \$3.25. Richmond Hill held a shower for a bride-to-be, who was presented with a cheque from the W.I. A similar token was given the retiring secretary. An auction of remnants was held and Richmond Young's Women had a similar auction. Windsor Mills sent a donation to the Greek Baby Appeal.

Shefford: Granby Hill sent nine scrap books to Le Flambeau Mission, Bondville, and worked for the Red Cross at the meeting. South Roxton entertained the county annual. Warden's program was planned by the convenor of Welfare and Health and featured a discussion on Health Clinics and the value of Red Cross work in a community. Place mats, donated by a member, are to be sold. Warden Juniors are discussing summer camp and Junior sweaters and pins have been ordered. A spelling bee, with prizes, was held at the meeting and Marjorie Ashton and Shirley Maynes were hostesses at a sugar party for the branch.

Sherbrooke: Ascot appointed a committee to make a quilt for the Tweedsmuir Competition. Money was voted to buy seeds for the school fair and old cotton was sent to the Cancer Clinic. A doughnut contest, with prizes, was enjoyed. Belvidere presented its retiring officers with cups and saucers. A card party was held at the home of Mrs. Burton. Brompton Road heard a reading, "Canada's Gift to the Alexanders". A donation of \$10 was given the Cancer Clinic and \$2 to a veteran. Lennoxville presented a life membership certificate and pin to Mrs. J. Stafford. Two subscriptions to the Federated News were taken out and one membership in the CAC. A display of small articles made from odds and ends of wool was judged and prizes given, and 39 pounds of cotton sent the Cancer Society. Milby voted money

for seeds for the school fair, and gave silver teaspoons to a newly married couple. Orford presented a life membership certificate to Mrs. M. G. Richards, past president of the branch and county president, and a leather writing case to Mrs. A. W. Mills in recognition of 22 years service as treasurer, of which 17 years were combined with the office of secretary. Mrs. Mack Ross, R.N., reported on a course in Civil Defense being held in the Sherbrooke Hospital. A subscription to the College Journal has been ordered for an honorary member, Mrs. F. Davis, England.

Stanstead: Ayer's Cliff entertained the county annual and catered for a banquet for the Midget Hockey Team. The overseas parcel was sent and a bring and buy sale netted a gain for the treasury. Beebe made plans for a course, "Painting for Pleasure". Life memberships were presented to three charter members and prizes are to be given for essays by the school children. Pictures of local scenes, shown by a local photographer, were much appreciated. Minton welcomed two new members. \$5 were given a local boy to assist on a trip to New York, sponsored by the School. At North Hatley two boys are taking the same trip and \$10 was voted for this purpose. Articles for fair exhibit are being prepared and an U.N. flag is being made. Stanstead North held a busy meeting with only the current donation reported. Tomifobia made plans to hold a dinner to raise \$50 for the new School at Stanstead. Way's Mills gave the proceeds of card party, \$17.75, to the school hot lunch project.

Vaudreuil: Cavagnal enjoyed a talk on bulbs and gardening, given by Mr. Zandbergen of Macdonald College. Harwood sends parcels to England every other month.

An Invitation To Ireland

The following letter has been received by the F.W.I.C. Secretary:

"The Irish Countrywomen's Association is holding their annual Summer School in Dungarvan, Co. Wexford, this year and we very cordially wish to invite any member of the W.I. in Canada who might be visiting Ireland during the month of July to visit the Summer School, and perhaps spend some time with us. We would be very pleased to have them.

Dungarvan is on the South coast of Ireland and not too far from Cobb, where the American Liners come in. The Summer School is in two sessions during the month of July: 1-12, and 18-28. There will be courses in Hedgerow Basketry; patchworks; Irish Dancing; singing; talks and demonstrations on many topics of interest.

If you would kindly pass on our "open invitation" to all members of the F.W.I.C. I would appreciate it and can assure you that we would give a visitor from Canada a warm welcome."

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Dorcas F. Smith,
Secretary.

The Thrift Campaign

The Thrift Campaign may soon be officially closing. In that event the national organizations responsible for organizing and directing it (our own F.W.I.C. is one of these) hope that such work will be continued. The last newsletter from the director of this campaign, Miss Rosa L. Shaw, Ottawa, has this to say:

"Correspondence received from many parts of Canada indicates that keen disappointment would be felt in thousands of homes if the Thrift movement were to lapse. Having experienced the benefits of a directed program of Thrift, women evidently believe that such work should become a permanent part of the activities of their various organizations.

It is earnestly hoped that when the time comes for the Thrift movement to pass from National direction, it will be continued actively by the Provincial and local units of all national organizations, which have played so influential a part in the campaign. Some of the officers, all of whom have been unsparing in their sacrifice of time and energy, no doubt will wish to pass on their responsibilities to others in the hope that this very vital and valuable enterprise will continue to grow and flourish.

To assume that the importance of thrift has lessened and that inflation has been conquered, would be a dangerous mistake. Inflation remains a very real menace, despite the occasional drop in the price of one commodity or another. It cannot be otherwise in such times as these.

Thrift is always important—and rewarding. In prosperous times it enables individuals to accumulate savings for the future, and at the same time puts a brake on inflationary tendencies. If "lean years" come, savings spell security. No one ever regrets having saved.

We have a real opportunity to help the younger generation to learn thrifty ways. Many of our junior homemakers hardly realize that there is an alternative to "ready-to-use" foods and "ready-to-wear" articles, having had no opportunity to develop latent talent for cooking, making clothes, in thrifty home management, or to experience the creative satisfaction of using such skills, to say nothing of the saving these can represent."

The above should be an opportunity and a challenge to all convenors of Home Economics!



384 Vitre St. West
MONTREAL, QUE.



THE COLLEGE PAGE

The Macdonald Clan

Notes and News of Staff Members and Former Students

"Bill" Swales Passes

With the death on May 22, 1952, of William Eardley Swales, known to his more intimate associates and friends as "Bill", Canada lost a scientist of international reputation.

Born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1907, Bill Swales came to Canada while still in his teens intending to farm. But his interests soon changed and he began the study of veterinary science and parasitology, which led first to a B.V.Sc. degree from the University of Toronto, followed in 1935 by a Ph.D. *magnum cum laude* from McGill. In 1939 he was named Associate Animal Pathologist in charge of the branch laboratory of the Federal Division of Animal Pathology, located at Macdonald College. At the same time he held an Honorary Associate Professorship in Animal Pathology and was Chairman of that department at the College.



We can make no attempt here to present a complete picture of his scientific achievements, which have resulted in the publication of some eighty papers. Mention can be made only of the major projects. One of the first was his thorough and fundamental study on *Fascioloides magna*, the large liver fluke of deer, which can attack both cattle and sheep with serious results. In many respects this is regarded as his most significant contribution to biological science, and it will always remain a basic contribution to comparative medicine. He next concentrated his attention on sheep parasites and set up a series of field trials in collaboration with the Experimental Farms Service. After examining over a million worms from these animals he was able to prepare a remarkable series of charts showing the seasonal distribution of eleven of the more important of these parasites.

About the time of his appointment with the Division of Animal Pathology, Dr. Swales commenced his studies

on the chemotherapy of parasitic diseases of livestock. The first of these was the adaptation of phenothiazine to Canadian conditions, and after a series of very carefully controlled experiments, he developed the now well-known disintegrating pill for use in sheep. This work was followed by similar studies on caecal coccidiosis, stimulated by the discovery in England of the value of sulphonamides in the prevention and treatment of this disease. At the time of his death, this work, and also investigations on blackhead in turkeys and acariasis in pigs, was in progress.

In addition to a highly trained scientific mind, a noted flair for organization, a distinct reluctance to jump to conclusions and an intolerance of indifferent work, Dr. Swales had an intense love for animals, and this was immediately apparent when he was seen among his patients. To him, they were not merely experimental units; he considered their welfare, and the time of day or night, or whether or not he was in the midst of some social function, mattered not at all if he felt he could alleviate some animal's suffering. Of domestic animals, dogs were probably his favourites. Toward the end of his life, when in no condition to practise, one of his last patients was a puppy to whom he gave the same care and interest that all previous patients had received.

Dr. Swales' personal interests were largely centered around wildlife and the great outdoors. A good shot and an ardent angler, he played a prominent part in founding the Lakeshore Anglers' Association, with wildlife conservation uppermost in his mind. To this end he worked with all his usual ability and energy. He was a keen ornithologist and strove continually to add further knowledge of the bird fauna of his district, deriving much pleasure from establishing an unusual record, or discovering some nest which he could photograph. He also carried his interest in birds to whittling figures from wood. For some years he played cricket for Ste. Annes Military Hospital, and at one time had a brief introduction to golf, all of which indicates an active life pursued with zest and determination.


To his wife, *née* Dorothy Newton, and to his son David, the sympathy of his friends at Macdonald College is extended; but they, in their loss, have the satisfaction of knowing that Dr. Swales left his job well done.

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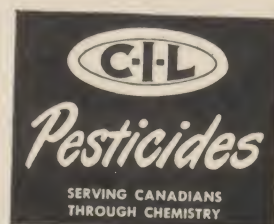
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